GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:109
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2015
Preferential Treatment to LDCs in Trade
Boianapalli Shri Vinod Kumar

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to provide preferential treatment to least Developed Countries (LDCs) in trade in services; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) : Yes, Madam.

(b) : 1. India will provide preferential treatment to LDCs in trade in service in respect of:

i) Visa related issues where India will waive visa fees for LDC applicants seeking Indian business and employment visas.

i i) Technical Assistance and capacity building in financial services, insurance services, MSME sector, agriculture and rural development, railways & specially designed courses in consultancy services and technical assistance for development of chartered accountancy and company/corporate secretary professions in LDCs.

iii) Market access commitments in some services subsectors, including access for LDC professionals subject to fulfillment of all immigration and qualification requirements.

2. Subsequent to approval by the Union Cabinet, the Permanent Mission of India in the WTO has notified India's offer in the WTO on 30.09.2015. The notification will come into effect from 01.12.2015. India will maintain these preferences for the period of the waiver.

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